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STATISTICS ON TURKISH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN 1952

Comment: The following information, taken from articles in the Ankara daily newspaper Zafer of 16 - 20 December 1952, indicates a continued increase in Turkish agricultural mechanization and production, an improvement of storage and marketing facilities for cereals, and a greater effort to minister to the needs of refugees.

INCREASE IN 1952 TURKISH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION -- Ankara, Zafer, 16 Dec 52

The Directorate General of Statistics has compiled a report on 1952 agricultural statistics and has issued the following statistical information taken from this report. The over-all tone clearly indicates an increase in Turkish agricultural production.

It is estimated that there were approximately 9,910,000 hectares under cultivation in 1952, the greatest area ever plowed under cultivation during the period of the republic. The 1952 figure shows an increase of 26 percent over the 1950 figure and an increase of 12 percent over the 1951 figure. As a result of the increased yield per hectare, the increase in production has greatly exceeded the development in the field of sowing.

Cereal production, which was 7,800,000 tons in 1950, rose to 10,700,000 tons in 1951 and to 12,700,000 tons in 1952. Therefore, the 1951 figure registered an increase of 28 percent over the 1950 figure, and the 1952 figure registered an increase of 18 percent over the 1951 figure. Wheat production, which was 1,820,000 tons in 1950, rose to 5,600,000 tons in 1951 and to an estimated 6,500,000 tons in 1952. Thus, the 1951 crop showed a 45-percent increase over the 1950 figure, and the 1952 crop showed a 68-percent increase over the 1950 figure.

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In the past year, the production of cotton and legumes such as chick-peas and lentils has increased 15 percent, while production of potatoes has increased 30 percent.

The value of crops (excluding tobacco and oil seeds) produced in 1950 was 2,700,000,000 lira, while the 1951 figure rose to 3,600,000,000 lira, and the 1952 figure reached 4,130,000,000 lira. The value of agricultural production in 1951 registered an increase of 34 percent over that of 1950, while this figure in 1952 registered an increase of 54 percent over that of 1950.

PURCHASE, SALE, AND STORAGE OF TURKISH CEREALS FACILITATED -- Ankara, Zafer, 16 Dec 52

The Ankara Regional Directorate of the Soil Products Office is rapidly continuing the purchase and storage of the 1952 cereal crop. Erection of portable steel storage buildings purchased in the US has begun. Six of these steel silos will be placed in front of the large permanent silo in Ankara, and four others will be erected on the Soil Products Office land adjacent to the Chamber of Commerce in Akkopru. In this manner, cereals storage and sales possibilities will be greatly facilitated, and the producer bringing his cereal to the grain exchange will find it easier to transfer his crops to the Soil Products Office.

Work is almost completed on construction of some vehicle-weighing machines in the Ankara border region, and two-ton capacity vehicle-weighing machines have begun to be erected in various purchasing areas.

The Ankara region topped all other regions of Turkey in the purchase of cereals in 1952, with the record-breaking total of 385,992 tons. Konya, the great cereal-producing region, came second, with purchases of 331,000 tons. Wheat comprised 332,588 tons of the 385,992 tons of cereals purchased in the Ankara region.

TURKISH FARMERS GIVEN 80,000 TONS OF SEED GRAIN -- Ankara, Zafer, 20 Dec 52

Distribution of seed grain to Turkish farmers at the state farms established by the Agriculture Ministry in various regions has almost been completed.

According to information received by this newspaper, since the grain producers have been pleased with the seed grain produced on the state farms, and since they now desire to obtain more of it, the Agriculture Ministry has begun efforts to increase production of this seed grain in a systematic manner.

Up to now the amount of seed grain [produced on state farms], which has been selected, treated against various diseases, packed in 100-kilogram sacks, and distributed to farmers, has reached 65,000 tons, and together with summer cereals and various other grains for seed purposes, the total will probably reach 80,000 tons.

REVIEW AIMS OF SOIL AND SETTLEMENT DIRECTORATE GENERAL -- Ankara, Zafer, 19 Dec 52

The Budget Committee of the Turkish Grand National Assembly met on 18 December and continued its discussions about the budget of the Soil and Settlement Directorate General. Muammer Alakent, Minister of State, answered questions posed by the deputies and gave the following summary of aims of the Soil and Settlement Directorate General.

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"We intend to accomplish two different types of refugee settlement work. First, to transfer landless citizens to areas having a large amount of land; second, to transfer other refugees to commercial and industrial centers. We have decided to request legal authority to carry out this work and desire to establish a 50-million lira fund to this end. We are considering meeting a portion of the work through extending credit to those who need it and also by giving state aid according to definite standards.

"We have already distributed approximately 703,000 dönmes of land to 15,756 families which have settled in villages. Eighty percent of these people are farmers and the remainder are artisans, etc. The greater portion of the land which has been distributed belonged to the Pious Foundations Organization."

TURKISH FARMERS RECEIVED 6,433 TRACTORS DURING 1952 -- Ankara, Zafer, 19 Dec 52

Mechanization of Turkish agriculture is rapidly continuing through efforts of the Agricultural Equipment Board. Under the program which the board undertook, successfully in 1952, the following amount of equipment has been distributed to Turkish farmers: 6,433 tractors, 937 combines, 17,395 pieces of tractor-drawn equipment, 30,000 animal-drawn plows, 7,750 harrows, 4,630 cultivators, 3,700 two-wheeled carts, 2,000 hay rakes, 1,350 seed spraying implements, 1,700 spreaders, 1,000 beehives, 1,780 hoeing machines, 17,610,000 kilograms of commercial fertilizer, 694 trailers [wagons], 2,955 motorized pumps, and 8,378,000 kilograms of insecticides.

In carrying out this program during 1952, machinery and equipment from abroad amounting to 4,565,511 lira was obtained through Marshall Plan credits, while other machinery and equipment from abroad in the amount of 32,797,100 lira was obtained through free foreign exchange; equipment manufactured in the Adapazarı factory in Turkey amounted to 1,510,203 lira, while other equipment manufactured in other local factories and distributed to farmers amounted to 3,611,244 lira.

Orders placed during 1952 through Marshall Plan funds for machinery and equipment manufactured abroad amounted to 224,426 lira, while other foreign orders paid with foreign exchange amounted to 16,123,135 lira. Orders placed during 1952 for machinery and equipment produced in the Adapazarı factory amounted to 3,673,033 lira, while orders placed in other local factories amounted to 1,887,747 lira.

The over-all total for machinery and equipment imported, purchased locally, and ordered during 1952 amounted to 64,332,576 lira.

In an effort to keep this newly acquired equipment in good shape, the Agricultural Equipment Board established during 1952 new stationary repair shops at Erzurum, Khayseri, Eskişehir, Urfa, Samson, Kirsehir, and Corlu (in Tekirdag Province) to supplement the six existing repair shops. Furthermore, 39 mobile repair and maintenance shops are in constant operation in various parts of Turkey to effect on-the-spot repairs.

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